## **IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the abstract with the following rewritten abstract:

Application No. 10/644,007

Reply to Office Action of August 10, 2007

A color shift correcting method for correcting a color shift due to misregistration of images in different colors, where a multi-color image is formed by developing latent one-color images written onto respective image carriers by an optical writing device, and directly or indirectly transferring developed one-color images onto a movable element, said method comprising the step of: includes adjusting a position at which one of the said image carriers is irradiated with an optical beam in a sub-scanning direction to correct the said color shift while the said optical beam is irradiated from the said optical writing device onto the said image carriers to develop the latent one-color images.